## STATE OF COLORADO

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING**

1570 Grant Street Denver, CO 80203-1818 (303) 866-2993 (303) 866-4411 FAX (303) 866-3883 TTY



Bill Owens Governor

Stephen C. Tool Executive Director

May 16, 2006

Dear Medicaid Mental Health Stakeholder:

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) is implementing a two-year pilot pharmacy management program, the Colorado Behavioral Pharmacy Management (BPM) Program. The Department contracted with Comprehensive NeuroScience (CNS), an independent company with experience in evidence-based and consensus-based standards for psychiatric medication prescribing, to provide utilization management services to prescribing providers.

Prescribing providers will receive a letter in July 2006 introducing the BPM program. Beginning August 2006, providers will receive an informative letter when prescribing anomalies are identified with their patients' psychiatric medications. Providers will also receive information/reports that include patients with potential medication problems, patient profiles, clinical considerations and best practice information.

The Department is presenting information on the BPM program at the following meetings and encourages interested individuals to attend:

Medicaid Community Mental Health Services Program Advisory Committee May 25, 2006, 9:00-10:30 at 1570 Grant,  $4^{th}$  Floor Conference Room

Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council May 26, 2006, 9:00 – 12:00 at 3550 W. Oxford Ave, Fort Logan Pavilion

The Department expects that the BPM program will assist providers in managing their patients' treatment, improve outcomes and treatment goals, and decrease unnecessary pharmacy costs and emergency room visits. If you have any questions regarding the BPM program, please contact me at 303-866-2220 or Kimberly Eggert at 303-866-3176.

Sincerely,

Antoinette Taranto

Behavioral Health Benefits